Message from Sen. Brown

Fellow Ohioans,

No matter where I travel throughout our state, I never fail to be impressed by what people from all walks of life are doing to strengthen the place we call home.

This report chronicles our work together in 2012.

Citizens of all 88 counties – farmers and firefighters, teachers and truck drivers, scientists and servicemembers, manufacturers and all middle class workers – are working to attract new economic development to our state.

And I'm committed to working with you to get things done.

With your support, the Senate passed my legislation – the largest bipartisan jobs bill to pass in Congress in recent months – to punish countries, like China, that cheat trade laws in an attempt to undercut Ohio-made products.

Together, we saw Ohio unemployment rate decline from about 7.7 percent in January to 6.7 percent in December. Investments in Ohio's auto industry by the top three auto manufacturers also put people back to work and spurred economic growth throughout the supply chain.

That's good news, but there is still much more work to do.

Let's energize our economy by creating a national manufacturing strategy that puts American workers first. Let's train Ohioans for 21st century jobs. Let's plan for the future. We can start now by investing in agriculture – and that means passing a Farm Bill that works for Ohio.

In 2012, we faced record deficits, but took the first steps toward reducing our deficit through shared sacrifice. We must continue to reduce the deficit and address our fiscal challenges wisely – without cutting Medicare benefits or compromising Social Security.

In the next Congress, I will continue to fight for equality of opportunity for all Ohioans and I'll continue to stand up for middle-class families.

The fabric of our rich cultural heritage is intertwined with the opportunities available to all people from Lake Erie to the Ohio River. This year, we can move our economy forward and keep our state strong.

Sincerely,

Sherrod Brown
U.S. Senator